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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Prumsodun Ok: The magic of Khmer classical dance |*

*TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/prumsodun\\_ok\\_the\\_magic\\_of\\_khmer\\_classical\\_dance](https://www.ted.com/talks/prumsodun_ok_the_magic_of_khmer_classical_dance)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### deity

*n.* a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture

*synonym* : god, goddess, divine being

(1) existence of a **deity**, (2) **deity** of commerce

The ancient Egyptians believed that the sun **deity** Ra was the most powerful god.

### serpentine

*adj.* characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression

*synonym* : twisting, winding, curving

(1) **serpentine** road, (2) **serpentine** design

The **serpentine** river snaked through the lush forest.

### animism

*n.* the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world

*synonym* : spirit worship, anthropomorphism, paganism

(1) traditional **animism**, (2) **animism** practices

The belief that objects have spirits is a central tenet of **animism**.

## serpent

*n.* a large snake

*synonym* : snake, viper, reptile

(1) the feathered **serpent** god, (2) **Serpent** Bearer

That mythical chimera has a lion's body, a bird's wings, and a **serpent's** tail.

## curvilinear

*adj.* characterized by or consisting of curved lines or curves; not straight or linear in form or shape

*synonym* : curved, sinuous, serpentine

(1) **curvilinear** relationship, (2) **curvilinear** motion

She created a stunning piece of artwork with **curvilinear** shapes and intricate patterns.

## mimic

*v.* to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh

*synonym* : mirror, imitate, ape

(1) **mimic** a human voice, (2) **mimic** numerous instruments

He is very popular at school because he can **mimic** all the teachers' accents.

## conjure

*v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination

*synonym* : summon, evoke, call forth

(1) **conjure** evil spirits away, (2) **conjure** a vision

The magician **conjured** up a rabbit out of thin air.

## stomp

*v.* to walk heavily and noisily, often with a rhythmical sound; to dance with a rhythmical step

*synonym* : trample, tread, dance

(1) **stomp** off to the room, (2) **stomp** on his foot

The children **stomped** their feet in time to the music.

## limitless

*adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

*synonym* : boundless, infinite, unrestricted

(1) for a **limitless** time, (2) **limitless** potential

The possibilities for scientific discovery are **limitless**.

## magician

*n.* a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects

*synonym* : illusionist, conjurer, wizard

(1) **magician's** hat, (2) street **magician**

The children were delighted with the **magician's** clever tricks.

## primal

*adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive

*synonym* : original, fundamental, basic

(1) **primal** eras, (2) **primal** fear

The **primal** instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.

## villager

*n.* a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community

*synonym* : resident, inhabitant, countryperson

(1) **villager** community, (2) local **villager**

The rural **villagers** were saddened by the destruction of their homes in the natural disaster.

## cherish

*v.* to hold someone or something dear; to feel or show affection for someone or something

*synonym* : treasure, value, hold dear

(1) **cherish** a stuffed animal, (2) **cherish** relationships

She **cherished** the memories of her childhood.

## backbreaking

*adj.* extremely physically demanding or strenuous, often to the point of causing fatigue or pain in the back or body

*synonym* : demanding, strenuous, arduous

(1) **backbreaking** effort, (2) **backbreaking** work

The construction workers endured **backbreaking** labor under the scorching sun.

## oppress

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

*synonym* : antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force  
Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

## evacuate

v. to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk

*synonym* : empty, clear out, vacate

(1) **evacuate** the building, (2) **evacuate** civilians  
The town was forced to **evacuate** due to the hurricane approaching.

## brainwash

v. to indoctrinate someone into a belief system or ideology by means of sustained persuasion or propaganda

*synonym* : indoctrinate, manipulate

(1) **brainwash** consumers into buying, (2) **brainwash** young people into joining  
The cult leader tried to **brainwash** his followers into believing he was a god.

## overwork

v. to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness

*synonym* : overdo, overtax, exhaust

(1) die from **overwork**, (2) **overwork** to compensate  
He **overworked** himself and ended up getting sick.

## starvation

n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death

*synonym* : hunger, malnutrition, emaciation

(1) die of **starvation**, (2) **starvation** wages  
The drought led to widespread **starvation** in the region.

- rev** *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute  
*synonym* : revolution, RPM, speed  
(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd  
He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.
- disastrous** *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful  
*synonym* : catastrophic, destructive, fatal  
(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely **disastrous** effect  
The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.
- haunt** *v.* to frequent or visit repeatedly, often in a way that is disturbing or unsettling; to occupy or fill the mind, often in a way that is unpleasant or persistent  
*synonym* : stalk, spook, obsess  
(1) **haunt** memories, (2) **haunt** my conscience  
The crowd's boos and jeers continued to **haunt** the performer long after the show ended.
- rift** *n.* a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces  
*synonym* : split, break, gap  
(1) **rift** between friends, (2) geological **rift**  
Their disagreement caused a **rift** in their friendship.
- resilient** *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions  
*synonym* : robust, sturdy, tough  
(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population  
She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

## liberate

*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

*synonym* : emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential

The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

## revive

*v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore

*synonym* : reanimate, rejuvenate, renew

(1) **revive** my energy, (2) **revive** an old friendship

They **revived** the tradition of holding a parade on the main street every year.

## incarnation

*n.* the embodiment of a concept or idea in a physical form; a person or thing that personifies something

*synonym* : embodiment, personification, avatar

(1) former **incarnation**, (2) **incarnation** of stupidity

The novel is an **incarnation** of the author's experiences and imagination.

## convergent

*adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge

*synonym* : merging, meeting

(1) **convergent** beam, (2) **convergent** thinking

The similarities between the two cultures suggest **convergent** evolution.

## fearless

*adj.* having no fear; brave

*synonym* : brave, courageous, daring

(1) **fearless** attitude, (2) **fearless** bravery

The **fearless** firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. cur\_\_\_\_\_ar relationship *adj.* characterized by or consisting of curved lines or curves; not straight or linear in form or shape
2. ha\_\_t my conscience *v.* to frequent or visit repeatedly, often in a way that is disturbing or unsettling; to occupy or fill the mind, often in a way that is unpleasant or persistent
3. die from ov\_\_\_\_\_rk *v.* to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness
4. op\_\_\_\_\_s the people with force *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
5. a hard and re\_\_\_\_\_nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
6. ch\_\_\_\_\_h relationships *v.* to hold someone or something dear; to feel or show affection for someone or something
7. pr\_\_\_l eras *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
8. li\_\_\_\_\_te potential *v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
9. ma\_\_\_\_\_an's hat *n.* a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects

ANSWERS: 1. curvilinear, 2. haunt, 3. overwork, 4. oppress, 5. resilient, 6. cherish, 7. primal, 8. liberate, 9. magician

- |                                      |    |   |
|--------------------------------------|----|---|
| 10. re___e an old friendship         | v. | to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore   |
| 11. ev_____te civilians              | v. | to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk  |
| 12. sta_____on wages                 | n. | a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death   |
| 13. Se_____t Bearer                  | n. | a large snake   |
| 14. an_____m practices               | n. | the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world |
| 15. co_____e a vision                | v. | to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination  |
| 16. ha__t memories                   | v. | to frequent or visit repeatedly, often in a way that is disturbing or unsettling; to occupy or fill the mind, often in a way that is unpleasant or persistent                         |
| 17. op_____s the minority            | v. | to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people  |
| 18. st__p off to the room            | v. | to walk heavily and noisily, often with a rhythmical sound; to dance with a rhythmical step   |
| 19. li_____te people from oppression | v. | to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression  |

ANSWERS: 10. revive, 11. evacuate, 12. starvation, 13. serpent, 14. animism, 15. conjure, 16. haunt, 17. oppress, 18. stomp, 19. liberate



20. con\_\_\_\_\_nt thinking *adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge
21. r\_\_t between friends *n.* a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces
22. fe\_\_\_\_\_ss bravery *adj.* having no fear; brave
23. st\_\_p on his foot *v.* to walk heavily and noisily, often with a rhythmical sound; to dance with a rhythmical step
24. street ma\_\_\_\_\_an *n.* a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects
25. have dis\_\_\_\_\_us consequences *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
26. former inc\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the embodiment of a concept or idea in a physical form; a person or thing that personifies something
27. re\_\_\_\_\_nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
28. vi\_\_\_\_\_er community *n.* a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community
29. die of sta\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death

ANSWERS: 20. convergent, 21. rift, 22. fearless, 23. stomp, 24. magician, 25. disastrous, 26. incarnation, 27. resilient, 28. villager, 29. starvation

30. local vi\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community
31. bac\_\_\_\_\_ing work *adj.* extremely physically demanding or strenuous, often to the point of causing fatigue or pain in the back or body
32. ev\_\_\_\_\_te the building *v.* to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk
33. absolutely dis\_\_\_\_\_us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
34. ser\_\_\_\_\_ne road *adj.* characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression
35. geological r\_\_t *n.* a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces
36. fe\_\_\_\_\_ss attitude *adj.* having no fear; brave
37. the feathered se\_\_\_\_\_t god *n.* a large snake
38. low-r\_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
39. ser\_\_\_\_\_ne design *adj.* characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression

ANSWERS: 30. villager, 31. backbreaking, 32. evacuate, 33. disastrous, 34. serpentine, 35. rift, 36. fearless, 37. serpent, 38. rev, 39. serpentine

40. de\_\_y of commerce *n.* a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture
41. mi\_\_c a human voice *v.* to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh
42. cur\_\_\_\_\_ar motion *adj.* characterized by or consisting of curved lines or curves; not straight or linear in form or shape
43. co\_\_\_\_\_e evil spirits away *v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination
44. ov\_\_\_\_\_rk to compensate *v.* to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness
45. ch\_\_\_\_\_h a stuffed animal *v.* to hold someone or something dear; to feel or show affection for someone or something
46. r\_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
47. li\_\_\_\_\_ss potential *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
48. existence of a de\_\_y *n.* a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture
49. mi\_\_c numerous instruments *v.* to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh

ANSWERS: 40. deity, 41. mimic, 42. curvilinear, 43. conjure, 44. overwork, 45. cherish, 46. rev, 47. limitless, 48. deity, 49. mimic

50. for a li\_\_\_\_\_ss time *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
51. con\_\_\_\_\_nt beam *adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge
52. traditional an\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world
53. re\_\_\_e my energy *v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore
54. br\_\_\_\_\_sh consumers into buying *v.* to indoctrinate someone into a belief system or ideology by means of sustained persuasion or propaganda
55. bac\_\_\_\_\_ing effort *adj.* extremely physically demanding or strenuous, often to the point of causing fatigue or pain in the back or body
56. pr\_\_\_l fear *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
57. br\_\_\_\_\_sh young people into joining *v.* to indoctrinate someone into a belief system or ideology by means of sustained persuasion or propaganda
58. inc\_\_\_\_\_on of stupidity *n.* the embodiment of a concept or idea in a physical form; a person or thing that personifies something

ANSWERS: 50. limitless, 51. convergent, 52. animism, 53. revive, 54. brainwash, 55. backbreaking, 56. primal, 57. brainwash, 58. incarnation

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ the tradition of holding a parade on the main street every year.  
*v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore
2. The belief that objects have spirits is a central tenet of \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world
3. The construction workers endured \_\_\_\_\_ labor under the scorching sun.  
*adj.* extremely physically demanding or strenuous, often to the point of causing fatigue or pain in the back or body
4. The novel is an \_\_\_\_\_ of the author's experiences and imagination.  
*n.* the embodiment of a concept or idea in a physical form; a person or thing that personifies something
5. She is a \_\_\_\_\_ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.  
*adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
6. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
7. The cult leader tried to \_\_\_\_\_ his followers into believing he was a god.  
*v.* to indoctrinate someone into a belief system or ideology by means of sustained persuasion or propaganda

ANSWERS: 1. revived, 2. animism, 3. backbreaking, 4. incarnation, 5. resilient, 6. rev, 7. brainwash

8. He is very popular at school because he can \_\_\_\_\_ all the teachers' accents.
- v. to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh
9. He \_\_\_\_\_ himself and ended up getting sick.
- v. to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness
10. The possibilities for scientific discovery are \_\_\_\_\_.
- adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
11. The prisoners were \_\_\_\_\_ after the war ended.
- v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
12. The drought led to widespread \_\_\_\_\_ in the region.
- n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
13. Their disagreement caused a \_\_\_\_\_ in their friendship.
- n. a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces
14. The ancient Egyptians believed that the sun \_\_\_\_\_ Ra was the most powerful god.
- n. a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.
- adj. of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive

ANSWERS: 8. mimic, 9. overworked, 10. limitless, 11. liberated, 12. starvation, 13. rift, 14. deity, 15. primal

16. The town was forced to \_\_\_\_\_ due to the hurricane approaching.
- v.* to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ river snaked through the lush forest.
- adj.* characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression
18. That mythical chimera has a lion's body, a bird's wings, and a \_\_\_\_\_ tail.
- n.* a large snake
19. She \_\_\_\_\_ the memories of her childhood.
- v.* to hold someone or something dear; to feel or show affection for someone or something
20. Historically, many countries have often \_\_\_\_\_ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.
- v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
21. The magician \_\_\_\_\_ up a rabbit out of thin air.
- v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination
22. The children were delighted with the \_\_\_\_\_ clever tricks.
- n.* a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects
23. The emission of hazardous substances has \_\_\_\_\_ effects on the ecology of a region.
- adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

ANSWERS: 16. evacuate, 17. serpentine, 18. serpent's, 19. cherished, 20. oppressed, 21. conjured, 22. magician's, 23. disastrous

24. The similarities between the two cultures suggest \_\_\_\_\_ evolution.

*adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge

25. The children \_\_\_\_\_ their feet in time to the music.

*v.* to walk heavily and noisily, often with a rhythmical sound; to dance with a rhythmical step

26. The crowd's boos and jeers continued to \_\_\_\_\_ the performer long after the show ended.

*v.* to frequent or visit repeatedly, often in a way that is disturbing or unsettling; to occupy or fill the mind, often in a way that is unpleasant or persistent

27. The rural \_\_\_\_\_ were saddened by the destruction of their homes in the natural disaster.

*n.* a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community

28. The \_\_\_\_\_ firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child.

*adj.* having no fear; brave

29. She created a stunning piece of artwork with \_\_\_\_\_ shapes and intricate patterns.

*adj.* characterized by or consisting of curved lines or curves; not straight or linear in form or shape

ANSWERS: 24. convergent, 25. stomped, 26. haunt, 27. villagers, 28. fearless, 29. curvilinear